

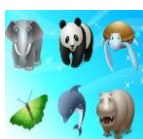


# Powerstown Educate Together NEWSLETTER 6

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2011

## PTA Meeting

Thank you to all the parents who came to our first Parent Teacher Association meeting. Edita is our new Chairperson. Methad is our Treasurer. However we still need a Secretary. Are you interested? If so, please let Helena know.



## Animal Theme

We are continuing to work on our Animal Theme. We introduced wild animals this week. We looked after the sick wild animals in the vet's surgery. We created slithering snakes. We listened to the sounds wild animals make and started describing them using full sentences. We also got to play with "small world" animals.

## Reading Record Programme

This week we started our shared reading programme. Every child brought home a book to read and a Reading Record copy. We really enjoyed looking at the pictures the children drew and the sentences they wrote about the story!



## Jolly Phonics

We are making great progress with our Jolly Phonics. This week we learnt "b", "ai" and "j". We are continuing to learn our phonics through four different stations (Colouring station, Writing station, listening & responding station & reading station.)

When your child practises their letters every night, they can participate more in the stations. Please continue to listen to your child's letters every night. It makes a big difference! Thanks.



## Maths Week

This week we celebrated Maths Week. Thanks to all the parents who stayed in class Wednesday morning to play maths games with us.

We really enjoyed our treasure hunt today and tomorrow we will have a Maths Quiz! We will also have more Maths Games tomorrow morning instead of Shared Reading, so please stay for in class for it if you can!

## NUT ALLERGY

Quick reminder that we have a pupil in Junior Infants with a nut allergy. Please ensure that your child does not bring in any products such as cereal bars or biscuits that contain nuts.



## Email Addresses

After mid-term break we are hoping to send all newsletters and letters to parents home via email and Facebook. Thanks to all parents who have returned slip with their email address but I am still waiting for more. Please give your email address to Helena ASAP. Thanks



## Diwali.

This week we introduced Diwali and the Story of Rama and Sita to the children. Check out our Learn Together Notice Board.

## What is Diwali?

Diwali is one of the biggest festival of Hindus, celebrated with great enthusiasm and happiness in India.



The festival is celebrated for five continuous days, where the third day is celebrated as the main Diwali festival or 'Festival of lights'. Different colourful varieties of fireworks are always associated with this festival. On this auspicious day, people light up diyas and candles all around their house. They perform Laxmi Puja in the evening and seek divine blessings of Goddess of Wealth. The festival of Diwali is never complete without exchange of gifts. People present Diwali gifts to all near and dear ones. Diwali is celebrated on October 26<sup>th</sup>.



### Halloween

Next week we will also be celebrating Halloween!

#### What is Halloween?

Halloween is a holiday that's celebrated annually on the night of October 31<sup>st</sup>. It originated in Ireland, and is celebrated in quite a few countries including Ireland itself, the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, Japan, New Zealand, Australia, Sweden among others. It's celebrated in a variety of ways and activities including trick-or-treating, ghost tours, bonfires, costume parties, "haunted house" tours, carving pumpkins and reading Halloween stories.



### Educate Together National Fundraiser

Friday, October 28<sup>th</sup> is Fundraising Day

We are hoping to raise funds for the school through the following;

#### 1. Fancy Dress

All boys, girls, teachers (and parents) are asked to dress up in their favourite costume. This could be a witch, Ben 10, a superhero, a character from your favourite story

or whatever you wish to be for the day!

#### 2. National Games Day

We will play a range of board games and activities on Friday Morning in our costumes! We are hoping parents can stay to help us play games such as twister, guess who, snakes and ladders etc. By doing this we get a voucher for 6 board games from MB.

#### 3. Halloween Party Games and Disco

We will introduce the boys and girls to a range of traditional Halloween games and activities such as Apple Bobbing, Halloween Myths and Legends, Carve a pumpkin, Snap apple just to name a few. We will also have a mini disco with games such as musical seats & statues

We ask that each child bring in €2 (or more). All money will go towards resources for our school.



### Cake Sale

As you are all aware, we will also have a cake sale on Friday 28<sup>th</sup>. We ask that all parents drop their cakes/buns into the school between 8.30am and 1pm.

The cake sale will be on from 1.10pm - 1.45pm.



Parents will collect the children as normal and make their way to the "Cake Sale Room".

Parents and children can buy a range of cakes and treats to taste. It will be a great opportunity for parents to get to know each other & to raise school funds! If you can help in organising the cake sale, please let Helena know. Please let us know if you can bake/purchase cakes for our cake sale.

Once again, thanks for all you do!